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RYAN

REAFFIRMS CHICAGO PLATFORM
AT THE \$1 JEFFERSONIAN

BANQUET. CROKER

CALLS ON THE
MAZETEER TO

INVESTIGATE

THE OFFICIAL
CONDUCT OF

PLATT.

HOW
JEFFERSON
FOUND
THE
UNITED
STATES
AND HOW
HE
LEFT IT.



W. J. Bryan Expounding "Democracy" to the Dollar Diners.

Three Thousand Diners Greet Their Leader with Wild Enthusiasm and Cheer His Enunciation of Democracy—The Banquet Itself Simple, but a Success. National Colors for Decoration.

THE Jeffersonian banquet of the Chicago Platform Democrats at the Grand Central Palace last night was strikingly simple in its arrangements, profoundly impressive in its enthusiasm.

The welcome given to Colonel Bryan from the 3,000 diners as he entered the hall was tumultuous. There was no mistaking the one purpose of the great gathering. The dinner was a mere opportunity. Every man and every woman there to honor their leader.

It was not a dress affair. The most of the Chicago Platform Democrats wore plain clothes. National colors sufficed for the decoration of the hall. T1463

Colonel Bryan's enunciation of Democratic principles was received with great applause.

A TREMENDOUS SHOW OF ENTHUSIASM.

The Democratic Club's ten-dollar dinner at the Metropolitan Opera House was splendid as a spectacle, the Chicago Platform Democrats' dinner at the Grand Central Palace last night was magnificent in its manifestation of enthusiasm for William Jennings Bryan and the principles he represented.

The first of them began to drift into the hall as early as half-past five o'clock. They sat down and patiently waited. By half-past six the vast space of the main dining hall was filled not with men in dress coats, but with enthusiasts in their workaday clothes. All these had apparently but one object in view, and that was to see and hear Mr. Bryan.

When the leader did appear at the great entrance to the banquet hall 3,000 men arose from their seats and cheered as one. The women, who had left the gallery boxes to dine on their own account in their own particular room, came hurrying

back and joined in the tremendous welcome. The blare of the trumpets playing "Hail to the Chief" was overcome and lost in the mighty chorus of the thousands of voices. Men forgot that they had dinner tables in front of them and jumped upon them to get a better view of Mr. Bryan. The air was rent with cheers, with inarticulate shouts of jubilation; women lent their shrill cries to the general acclaim, and in a word, 4,000 staid and usually sober people seemed to have become delirious from joy.

Cheered as President, Mr. Bryan walked down the center aisle

Continued on Page 52.



MR. CROKER—Go to Mr. Platt and investigate him and his two sons. That firm is at the foundation of all the corruption in this city.
MOSS and MAZFT—Silence!

"Go to Thomas C. Platt and His Two Sons and Investigate Them! They Are at the Bottom of All the Corruption in the State," Said the Tammany Leader to His Inquisitors.

At the close of yesterday's half session of the Mazet committee it was announced that the investigation would be resumed at the Board of Trade rooms, No. 203 Broadway, at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. Chairman Mazet said that Mr. Croker's examination would be completed at that session.

Mr. Croker was the chief witness yesterday. His examination consumed most of the time of the session. The most dramatic incident of the day occurred when, goaded by taunts at himself and his sons, he exclaimed:

"Go to Thomas C. Platt and his two sons and investigate them! They are at the bottom of all the corruption in the State." And the witness leaned forward and shook his finger in the face of Mr. Moss.

"It's Platt's firm that retained you?" continued Mr. Croker. "They ought to pay you for this work and not the Legislature or the people. Make that firm bring their books here and then you'll find evidence of corruption!"

There was a murmur in the room. The audience was too amazed to cheer or laugh, as they did at Mr. Croker's sallies on Friday.

Mr. Moss paled under the savage onslaught, and then pulled himself together and asked:

"Have the men you name any connection with the city departments? If they have and you have any evidence of corruption, just bring it here and we'll investigate them."

Mr. Croker leaned back in his chair and smiled grimly.

"No. The people would not give them the city's departments," he said, dryly. Then he added: "But if you will find a man in the city departments who has done wrong, I'll be one of the first to put him out."

The hearing yesterday consisted of a forenoon session only, as the committee wanted to take part in the Raleigh reception. The hearing began at 10:30 o'clock in the Criminal Court Room, Federal Building. The room was well filled, but not crowded. At no time during the day was there any of the laughter or cheering that marked Mr. Croker's first day on the stand. Former Assemblyman Louis Davidson was one of the first to arrive. He said he had been retained to assist Dr. O'Sullivan.

Mr. Croker testified on Friday that he is the leader of Tammany Hall, and that as such his wishes are usually obeyed. He said that money was necessary to conduct a campaign and maintain a political organization, and that office holders and candidates for office contributed to the fund with which the campaigns are conducted. Even judges were assessed, he said, and were expected to appoint their subordinates from the members of the Democratic party.

Mr. Croker also testified that he was in favor of the municipal ownership of gas plants, and that he was opposed to the Amsterdam avenue grab and the Astoria gas grab; that he was a partner of Peter F. Meyer in the real estate business, and that his income from that business was about \$25,000 a year. His firm, he said, handled some of the judicial sales. He declined to answer questions regarding his personal business.

Mr. Croker's Partner Called.

Peter F. Meyer, Dock Commissioner, and Mr. Croker's partner in the real estate business, took the stand. He was defiant, and at times his manner was savage without apparent cause.

"Before I became Mr. Croker's partner I made \$103,000 in one single year—more than you'll ever make in your life at this business, Mr. Moss," he snapped out; and Chairman Mazet reprimanded him.

Mr. Croker was graver of aspect than on Friday. From the first he showed that he considered himself the object of persecution, and made it plain that he was ready to strike back. He answered most of the questions in monosyllables, accompanied by a short nod or shake of the head, but from time to time he broke into out, vehement sentences, and talked angrily to the investigators or to Mr. Moss.

"Mr. Croker, you said yesterday that you would be willing to have your arm cut off if it could be proved that you had taken money dishonestly from the city," said Mr. Moss. And Mr. Croker half growled a brief assent, whereupon the lawyer reminded him that such a statement could mean nothing, and added:

"But would you be willing to part with your fortune and your liberty?"

To this Mr. Croker also assented. Questions followed in regard to his business affairs and those of his sons, and when Mr. Moss said that his son Frank had made contradictory statements, which threw doubts on his veracity, Mr. Croker's eyes blazed as he leaned far forward and said:

"I have perfect confidence in that boy. If you think you can destroy him in this

city, just go ahead and try it. It seems to me this committee is sitting to keep me and my sons from earning a living."

"Investigate Platt," Says Mr. Croker.

Chairman Mazet mildly expostulated at this, whereupon Mr. Croker retorted with the declaration already quoted about Platt and his sons.

Mr. Croker grew more and more irritated as questions were savagely put at him as to whether he had used his political control to influence affairs of the Manhattan and Metropolitan Railway companies, and he glowered as he made his brief denials.

Mr. Moss worked himself into a tantrum in firing questions at the witness about his ownership of certain stocks.

"You don't dare tell! You don't dare! You don't dare!" railed the lawyer.

Mr. Croker's impassiveness nonplussed the inquisitor, and he asked:

"Didn't you have 140,000 shares of that stock given to you?" He apparently meant 140 shares, and Mr. Croker smiled grimly at his embarrassment.

"You think everybody is as bad as yourself, Mr. Moss," said Mr. Croker suavely, and when Chairman Mazet expostulated, Mr. Croker wheeled his chair around and faced the committee savagely.

"He is trying to put me down. I will not stand it. And you are trying to protect Mr. Moss."

The investigation closed at 1 o'clock. Mr. Moss said that Mr. Croker's examination would conclude in time for the Tammany leader to sail on Tuesday for Europe, as they had no desire to inconvenience him. After Monday's session the committee will adjourn until Friday.

MEYER RESENTS MOSS'S PERSONAL PRYING.

Fees and Big Earnings of His Firm. Calls a Halt When Inquiry Becomes Insolent.

The first witness was Richard J. Foster, a wholesale ice dealer at the foot of Morton street, North River. He testified that the Consolidated Ice Company had tried to absorb his business, and told of alleged hardships enforced against him by the Dock Department, the attempt being to show that he was harassed by the department because of his refusal to enter the so-called Ice Trust, with which there has been an effort to connect Tammany leaders. A long questioning resulted in nothing.

Peter F. Meyer was then sworn and questioned by Mr. Moss.

Q. You are a member of the Dock Board, are you not? A. I am, sir.

Q. What position do you hold in the Dock Board? A. Dock Commissioner.

Q. Are you also a member of a firm engaged in the real estate business in connection with Mr. Croker? A. I am.

Q. Was that firm formed in 1882? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Prior to that time, that is, the formation of the company or co-partnership, you were a member of the firm of A. H. Muller & Son, were you not? A. I was; yes, sir.

Q. You were selling at the auction rooms in Liberty street, like other auctioneers, selling property at judicial sales, among other things? A. Sold at Liberty street and sold at No. 111 Broadway, before we went to Liberty street.

Q. The sales room was removed by order of the Court from No. 111 Broadway to

No. 50 Liberty street, was it not? A. With my consent.

Q. With your consent, of course. A. Before my connection with Mr. Croker.

Q. Before your connection with Mr. Croker, the business was removed from No. 111 Broadway to No. 50 Liberty street? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Up to that time you had had a fair division of the business of the judicial sales with the other auctioneers, did you not? You had your fair proportion? A. We never looked for that.

Q. You did not have to look? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That came without looking? A. Yes; all my business came without looking.

Q. That is one of the things we want to inquire about. You do get a large number of judicial sales now, don't you? A. You seem to know more about my business than I do.

Q. According to your statement, \$42,000 in 1887, and that brought in the enormous income of \$3,700 a month.

Q. Mr. Croker has testified that his profits in your concern annually were \$25,000 or \$30,000? A. Yes, sir.

Q. But that was outside of judicial sales, was it? A. Yes, sir; through executors' and trustee sales.

Q. I can make more money in one executor's or trustee's sale than I can out of 500 legal sales.

Q. A large number of legal sales coming into the hands of an auctioneer, while they do not produce perhaps an enormous income, are pretty good, are they not? A. I don't think so; no, sir.

Q. Prior to the taking in of Mr. Croker into your firm you did not have a great many of these judicial sales, did you? A. No; but I made more money from other sales, and got twice the money that I do now.

Q. Twelve you are getting now? A. Yes, sir.

Q. So it seems you are not making so much money now? A. I made \$100,000 in twelve calendar months; more than you will ever make in your life at this business.

The Chairman: You will confine your answers to the question and not volunteer information.

Mr. Moss: It is not annoy me, Mr.